rural development and allkd subjects, so that the agriculturists of this country could get economic and social justice ?

SHRI V1SHVJIT P. SINGH (Maharashtra) : He will do it next year.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Madam, Shri Sikander Bakht has raised very important issues. I respect the sentiments underlying his questions.

If you look at the Budget documents, you would notice that as far as non-interest, non Plan expenditure of the Government is concerned, in the last 22 months we have tried to control it in a very significant way. I am aot saying that what we have done is enough. Our revenue deficit is still very high. But in the three budgets that I have presented, a sincere effort has been made to cut non-Flan expenditure. For example, in 1990-91 export subsidies were roughly about Rs. 3500 crores. We have now eliminated those subsidies. Other subsidies have also been reduced. We have also reduced the non-Plan support for loss-making public sector enterprises. Altogether I feel by 1995-96 when interest payments would also stop rising you would see a definite imprevement in the non-Plan expenditure side of the picture.

With regard to the question of the hon. Member, I did not say that we are spending 35 per cent of the Central Budget on agriculture. Merely I stated that the agriculture provision in the Central Plan has gone up by 35 per cent. I would, therefore, like to correct this impression. 1 also mentioned that agriculture basically is a State subject, that apart from private investment unless the Stats Govern-ment finances are in good shape, I think the agriculture investment and other investments in the State sector would continue to be hampered.

THE APPROPRIATION (No. 2) BELL, 1993

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : Madam, I move :

> "That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial yew 1993-94, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was proposed.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उप-सभापति महोदया, भाषा और शैली तथा आंकड़ों की जादूगरी ने तो ऐसा सिद्ध किया है कि वित्त मंत्री जी ने यह जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया है यह बड़ा ही सार्थक है। उसकी सार्थकता को सिद्ध करने के लिए उन्होंने छः बिन्दुओं पर अभी जोर दिया था। पहला बिंदु उनका था, सबसे पहले गरीबी निवारण और सामाजिक संतुलन बनाएंगे, कृषि को बढ़ावा देंगे और गांवों में रोजगार के साधन मुहैया कराएंगे। इस पर सारे खर्चे का उन्होंने इस प्रकार से बजट में प्रावधान बताया कि गोया इन सबका समाधान इस बजट के माध्यम से कर देंगे।

मैं लम्बी-चौड़ी चर्चा न करके मंत्रालयों से सम्बन्धित कुछ बिन्दुओं पर मंत्री जी का जवाब चाहूंगा और कुछ प्रश्न मंत्री जी के सामने प्रस्तुत कर रहा हूं। पहला, कृषि मंत्रालय से सम्बन्धित मेरा प्रश्न है कि यदि आप कृषि को बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं जिससे उपज भी बढ़े और लोगों को रोजगार भी मिले तो कितना प्रावधान आपने बजट में किया है, कितनी भूमि को जो बेकार हो रही है उसे खेती योग्य बनाने पर और जो खेती योग्य असिंचित भूमि है उसको सिंचित बनाने पर

[श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम]

कितने धन का प्रावधान किया है ? कितनी हेक्टेयर जमीन को जो बेकार पड़ी है, उपजाऊ बनाएंगे और कितनी हेक्टेयर जमीन जो असिंचित है उसको सिंचित बनाएंगे । इस बात का कोई संकेत आपके बजट में नहीं मालूम पड़ता है ।

दूसरा मेरा प्रश्न पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय से संबंधित वन डिपार्टमेंट से है । वन अभी बहुत से ऐसे हैं कि जो हैं नहीं, मौके पर लगे नहीं हैं, भूमि संरक्षित है या अधूरे वन हैं और जमीन पड़ी हुई है । आदिवासी इन वनों को आजादी पूर्वक इस्तेमाल करके अपनी जीविका को चलाते थे । वन संरक्षित रहें, लकड़ी की कटान अवैध तरीके से न हो, चोरी रुके, आदिवासियों को रोजी मिले, इसलिए कितना प्रावधान आपने ठेकेदारी को खत्म करने के लिए और तेंदु पत्ते का अधिकार इन आदिवासियों को देने के लिए इस प्रकार का प्रावधान इस बजट में किया है वह धनराशि जो सरकार को मिलती है इसके माध्यम से आप कैसे मीट आउट करेंगे और आदिवासियों को उनका अधिकार रेस्टोर करके रोजी देंगे ?

तीसरा मेरा प्रश्न योजना एवं कार्यक्रम क्रियान्वयन मंत्रालय से संबंधित है । आज राज्यों में विधायकों के माध्यम से उनके क्षेत्रों में काफी धनराशि उनके सलाह-मशविरे से कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन और विकास के ऊपर की जाती है । सांसद महोदय भी अपने क्षेत्र से जब आते हैं तब वे भी अपने मतदाताओं को कुछ आश्वासन दे करके आते हैं कि हम भी अपने क्षेत्र में यह विकास के कार्यक्रम करवायेंगे । तो क्या कोई आपने इस बजट में प्रावधान, सांसद चाहे वह लोक सभा के हों, चाहे सांसद वह राज्य सभा के हों, उनके द्वारा, उनके प्रस्ताव पर, उनकी सिफारिश पर, उनके मनचाहे क्षेत्रों में क्या कोई धनराशि, जो मैं प्रस्तावित करता हूं, दो करोड़ रुपया प्रति सांसद के हिसाब से खर्च कराने का क्या आप इस बजट में कोई प्रावधान करेंगे ?

चौथा मेरा प्रश्न ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय से संबंधित है । आपने ग्रामीण विकास और रूरल एम्प्लायमेंट पर बड़ा जोर दिया । लेकिन आप रूरल एम्प्लायमेंट कैसे देंगे ? कितने आप कुटीर उद्योग-धंधे और कितनी एग्रो बेस्ड इंडस्ट्रीज आप हमारे ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में दिलवायेंगे और उन पर कितना पैसा खर्च करेंगे जिससे कि ग्रामीण बेरोजगारों को रोजगार मिलेगा ? बातें तो आपने बड़ी लच्छेदार कहीं हैं, लेकिन आपके बजट भाषण में और बजट प्रस्तावों में इस प्रकार का कोई संकेत नहीं हैं कि कहां से रोजी लोगों को मिलेगी ? क्योंकि इस तरह के कुटीर उद्योग-धंधे आप खोलेंगे नहीं और मेरा कहना इसके खिलाफ यह है कि बड़े उद्योग और बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों के होते हुए चाबे जी जायेंगे तो छबे जी होने मगर दूबे जी रह जायेंगे, काटेज उद्योग लगेंगे तो नहीं, बल्कि जो हैं वे खत्म और हो जायेंगे और ऐसा हो रहा है ।

मेरा पांचवां प्रश्न भूतल और परिवहन मंत्रालय से है । दिल्ली में यह जो रैड लाइन बसें चल रही हैं ये आदमियों की मौत का कारण बन गई हैं । इनके ड्राईवर और कंडक्टर सारे यातायात के नियमों का उल्लंघन कर रहे हैं और रोजाना जनता के मस्तिष्क में इनके खिलाफ एजीटेशन बढ़ रहा है । तो इन बसों को बन्द करके डी०टी०सी० को नई बसें उपलब्ध करा कर के आदमियों को मरने से रोकने के लिए क्या आप अपने बजट में कोई प्रावधान डी०टी०सी० की बसें खरीदने के लिए करेंगे ?

मेरा एक सवाल वस्त्र मंत्रालय से संबंधित है । अभी कल यहां पर वस्त्र मंत्री जी बयान दे रहे थे कि अनेकों बीमार मिलें हैं और उनको मिला करके हम और कुछ नई मिलों को यानी उन्हें मिक्सचर से चालू करेंगे । इसका मतलब है कि बहुत सी मिलें समाप्त हो जाएंगी तो ये मजदूर जब उन मिलों में से जायेंगे तो इनको आप किस तरह से समायोजित करेंगे ? इनको कहां से पैसा देंगे या इनको कोई विकल्प के रूप में रोजगार देंगे ? इसके लिए क्या प्रावधान आपने अपने बजट में किया है ?

मेरा आखिरी सवाल मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय से है । आपने अभी कैबिनेट में, आप ही ने निर्णय लिया कि डा० अम्बेदकर

विश्वविद्यालय, लखनऊ को आप केन्द्र के विश्वविद्यालय के रूप में स्वीकार कर रहे हैं ।

तो इसके निर्माण और संचालन के लिए आपने कोई धनराशि का क्या प्रावधान अपने बजट में किया है ? मेरा ऐसा कहना है कि दो सौ करोड़ रुपये कम से कम आप इस विश्व-विद्यालय के लिए निर्धारित करें ।

मान्यवर वित्त मंत्री जी, आपके इस भाषण में जो अभी आपने दिया और सारा थ्रस्ट जो आपने दिया कि हम कृषि को बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं, तो कृषि को बढ़ावा देने के लिए खाद के ऊपर तो बहुत ज्यादा चर्चा हो चुकी है, लेकिन पानी की बड़ी आवश्यकता है और बीज की भी बड़ी आवश्यकता है ।

आज जितने हमारे अनुसंधान केन्द्र हैं बीज के लिए, चाहे वह पंत नगर विश्वविद्यालय में हों या कहीं और हों इनकी अपेक्षा जब आप विदेशों से बीज मंगवायेंगे और वह हमें महंगे मिलेंगे, तो किसान किस तरह से यहां पर उन बीजों को खरीद सकेगा और अपनी पैदावार को बढ़ा सकेगा और बरसात जब होती ही नहीं है और पानी के लिए नहरों के खोदने का प्रावधान आपने कोई किये ही नहीं हैं, तो फिर कहां से पानी किसानों की जमीन को मिलेगा । तो फिर खेती की पैदावार कैसे बढ़ेगी और फिर कृषि के बारे में आपका कथन कैसे सार्थक होगा ?

यह कुछ प्रश्न मैं आपके सामने रख रहा हूं । कृपा करके आप इनका उत्तर दें । बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद ।

SHRI ASHIS SEN (West Bengal): On the Appropriation Bill that is before us, I don't think there is much to speak about, because a lot of discussion has already taken place on the Budget, but I would like to say that the Government does not throw any light on the resurrection of our sagging economy. On the other hand, we find from the Budget, which is followed by the Appropriation Bill, that our country is being dragged into debts by constant borrowings from abroad —the IMF, the World Bank etc. The debt is to the tune of about Rs. 2,30,000 crores. I do not know how far we will be able to carry forward our improvement in the economy,-if any, only by -borrowing from the World Bank and other international lending agencies. Much talk has been going on in these successive Budgets — this is the third one coming—that a big improvement is likely to come about. It is always a promise for the future. But at the same time we find that the Finance Minister has already spoken that the turn around will take place about ten years hence with no end to external borrowings in sight. If this is the assessment of the Finance Minister, I do not know how far we are to go to bring about improvement in our economy or just to dovetail to a position where not only the country's economic freedom, but other freedoms will also be affected because of borrowings and payments you have got to make therefor.

The Budget says that there has been no extra tax burden. If before the Budget administrative prices are increased in the case of commodities like sugar, rice, wheat, kerosene, LPG, railway fares, then what is the need for having an additional levy while presenting the Budget ? In the context of this, the whole thing is not going to be normal, as is sought to be presented.

Liberalisation has opened the doors for unrestricted imports. Despite tall talks, exports have dwindled and the trade deficit during the first ten months in terms of US dollars is $ 3.596 million—$ 3.5 billion—compared *to* last year's J 1.534 million. It is a fact which has come out in the open in the media and journals. The reason the Commerce Minister gives is.. ..that

[Shri Ashis Sen] in the first ten months of 1992-93, our trade deficit amounted to 3596 million US dollars. It was 1534 million US dollars last year. He says it was because of the fall in trade with the erstwhile Soviet Union and East European countries, recessions in industrially advanced countries and sluggish growth in world trade. Is there any material change in the situation ? So, deficit will be there and will continue to enlarge. In this context, if anybody goes on telling over and over again that we will be able to bring about a material change in our economic position by boosting our exports, I do not know whether it is being honestly told or told only for the sake of telling.

Customs duty has been virtually made nominal. Indigenous industries will get dried up, the small and medium ones, particularly, due to the impact of multinational corporations. Relaxation of import control has also come resulting in an import increase of 16.5 per cent in dollar terms in the first nine months as compared to last year while exports in dollar term have risen by 3.4 per cent. Does it not show that the growth performance of our economy is not as remarkable as the Government wants to make out ? It shows the failure of the reforms effort. Yet, the Finance Minister wants to proceed in the same direction. Why, at whose instance and in whose interests? Naturally, we are concerned about it.

Internally, the domestic borrowing is around 40 per cent of the total public expenditure. Payment of interest and instalments on foreign indebtedness, together with commitments to internal borrowings, is squeezing whatever funds would be available for development. Now. a lot of talk has been made that industries will grow and for that, hope has been given. The corporate tax has been reduced. So much of liberalisation has been given in the name of capital-raising and going to the open market. It has been done on the plea of industrial growth. But, over the years, the industry has not grown despite concessions. The industrialist, the corporate sector, is demanding more and rriofe profit-earning and the Government is really conceding. The ever-increasing number of closed industrial units shows which way things are moving.

(Time-bell rings)

SHRI ASHIS SEN : Do you want me to stop now ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI ASHIS SEN : Was it for five minutes ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : For seven minutes. We thought we were going to give two hours for it. You have eight minutes, You can speak for one more minute.

SHRI ASHIS SEN : Thank you for that.

I will not be talking much about what everybody knows. But I have some points to bring to the notice of this House. The ever-increasing number of closed units shows which way things are moving. The Government does not portray any steps towards more employment. There is only the Exit Policy. We have to borrow money from international agencies, the IMF and the World Bank, who say, "Take money from us. Dismiss your people. We will provide funds for dismissal". Ido not know whether it is considered to be, a process of increasing employment opportunities

in our country. Dismiss them, reduce jobs and, at the same time, pay for it through, the external loan-giving agencies. As I have been telling, the National Fund is for retrenchment of workers and for that, more and more borrowings from the World Bank are made. Similarly, on the agriculture front, fertiliser subsidies have been reduced and withdrawn. Small farmers are the worst hit. Big landlords get the benefit. The Government is yielding to them without asking them to contribute to the national exchequer by some sort of agricultural income-tax a demand which I made and repeated often over the years.

Why should we not try to improve the revenue of the Government, to mobilise more resources'? There is a vast potential in the agricultural field. Why are we not at all trying to bring them under the net of agricultural tax ? I don't know whether there is any bottleneck or whether there is any inhibition about it. There is not even a thinking in that direction. It is argued that due to rise in support prices of grains the producers have gained. It is an illusion because there is not procurement at the support price. When the articles or the grains or the agricultural produces come to the market, at that point of time the Government does not arrange for procurement. It becomes notional that we have fixed a particular price because after sometime the prices will come down and the grains go into the hands of the big marketeers. That is why the public distribution system is practically being dismantled. The farmers are at the losing end. That we have been finding from our experience.

The Government policies are to destroy the public sector built up over the decades. Privatisation, disinvestment, has been made to appear as the panacea. What is the resulting picture? Has it changed *the* viability position? No. It cannot be, unless honest,. sincere and efficient persons are put on the job of running these industries and institutions. I have particularly mentioned about this that putting somebody is only a question of filling up the vacancy. The question is appointing an honest, sincere and efficiei-t person who has the knowledge of a particular industry. If we do not appoint such persons and if it is only a political appointment, the position will never change and we continue to be in the quagmire, as we have been all these years. Unless it is stopped, the entire resources will be utilised by vested interests through political intervention.

In spite of all that is revealed by the scam in the financial sector, entry of more foreign banks has been liberalised. There are plenty of foreign banks. All of us know what the role of the foreign banks is in the scam. How many branches of the foreign banks are there? What sort of business are they doing with the number of branches that the foreign banks are operating. That is an important thing which we cannot ignore. The role of private sector banks too has been nauseating. Still more private banks are being ushered in. Is it for strengthening the financial sector ? No. Even, then why is it so ? The World Bank and the IMF advisers have conveyed through the mechanism of Narasiir.-ham Committee that this has to be done. Huge non-perl'orming assets to the extent of Rs. 25,000, crores, of the financial institutions and the banks are lying there. No attempts are made to recover the loans and advances given by the banks and other financial institutions because vested interests

[Shri Ashis Sen] wfth political clout are behind the nonpayment. Nationalised Banks and financial institutions are not basically weak. They are pictured as such. A systematic campaign is going on that oar banks and financial institutions are very weak and bad. You ask them to prepare the balance sheets in a particular way and make a big provision for bad advances. For the last 25 years whenever there has been any need for making certain advances, you have allowed them to go on making advances without making a provision. Suddenly, this year or the previous year, you feel that a new change in the balance sheets has got to be brought about, and all the financial institutions are to be told that they are not making any profit and they are in the red and then create a condition for others to come in. They are allowed to come in in the name of competition. 1 don't think it is proper. I will request the

Finance Minister.....*(Time bell rings)*

Only two speakers are there....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : How do you know? I might have received more names.

SHRI ASHIS SEN : I think there is not much for me to talk about. I think much of it is a reiteration. Even last year profits have been more. Why then is the necessity of asking them to go in for selling of shares thus allowing a smooth entry for private shareholding ? I know that several arguments can be put forward for and against this.

There is absolutely no need for it. True capital base of banks has to strengthened. In the normal course it can be done. But should the Government owned banks and financial institutions be called upon to go to market for this ? Guarantee is there from the Government. What is the necessity for calling upon them to go to the open market in the name of improving their capital base ? Should they be called upon to go to the open market to get capital from private hands ? I don't think this will be really in the interest of these institutions or the economy as a whole, for that matter.

It appears that the Government is in a way abandoning banking development which is so much important for our under-developed economy. For a planned disbursal of rural credit, regional rural banks need to be strengthened. But no decision has yet been taken to set up NRBI for which a scheme has already been finalised.

The overall situation, as prevailing does not warrant that we should vote for this Appropriation Bill. I oppose this Appropriation Bill.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri V. NARAYANASAMY) in the Chair]

SHRI N.E. BALARAM (Kerala) : I don't want to discuss about the Budget in detail because we have already discussed it and the Minister has also replied to it. I am only raising some of my strong reservations on the policies pursued by this Government. I don't want to pick up a quarrel with the Finance Minister on the question of inflation. Everybody knows that the rate of inflation has come down. But I am very much worried about something else. The other day the Finance Minister was totally silent on the question of rise in prices of essential commodities which is of great concern to the common people of this country. Of course, among the academic circles the speech of the Finance Minister, I think, will get some appreciation. But we should take into consideration the ground realities.

I think it is very difficult to convince us on certain points like earnest attempt to curtail the inflation because of the increase of administered prices and because of many other factors. I don't want to go into that. The prices have already risen. The price of food material, the price of sugar, the prices of medicines have gone up. 1 don't know what steps the Government is going to take to bring down the prices to a manageable level for the common people, not to a manageable level of the economy.

Why are we debating about this Budget ? f was listening to the speech made by the hon. Finance Minister. 1 also listened to the speeches of some of my friends from the other side. I want to bring to the notice of the Government certain realities which are happening inside our country. Now we are in the year 1993. Even now we are hearing about starvation deaths in our own country. How many people have died in three districts of Orissa ? I don't know the exact number. Different papers have given different numbers. Starvation deaths are not only there in Orissa but in several parts of the country. It is a fact. I understand that all these deaths are not starvation deaths. Many people are dying due to non-availability of treatment. That is what is happening in the country. In such a country when we debate on major issue of financial management, we have to take into consideration all these things. That is what 1 am saying. We 4.00 P.M. are not able to control prices with this understanding. The Finance Minister can argue that there is a different kind of management for prices on the basis of the economy. That is there. I do not dispute that. But what will be its effect on the common man ? I do not have a clear answer from the Finance Minister on that question. I want to remind him about what he said when he made the speech on February, 20th. He emphasised one point. He said he has cut down, reduced, has given a big tax concession to the industrialists and the traders of the country, around Rs. 4,500 crores —a big amount, a huge amount. It is not a small amount as far as this country is concerned. He said that the concessions given to the industrialists and the traders of this country by slashing the customs and excise duties would be passed over to the common man. He had promised he would see that the concessions given are passed over to the common man. Now I would like to ask him a question. It is two months now since he made that speech. Did he check up after he gave the concessions, whether the people who are producing goods and who are distributing goods to the common man have passed the benefit or a part of the benefit which they got from the Government of India to the common man ? I would like to ask this question. I think you would have done your homework. You can enlighten me on that point. As far as I am concerned I am dead certain that none of the concessions have been passed on. Of course, I am not talking of those people who are purchasing cars. That is a different point. Some MP are also purchasing cars I am not talking for them. I am talking for a different type of people. I am talking of the people who are poor. They do not get any benefit from the tax concessions that you have given to the monopoly houses of this country. It is a fact. What steps are you taking to implement your policies ? You had made a promise in this House and in the other House. It is your duty to check up. It is your duty to imple-

[Shri N. E. Balaram] mentit. I hope the hon. Minister will respond to my question. He was repeatedly mentioning about the Constitutional aspects here. We, all of us, know about it. I do not think we need to hear it from the Finance Minister again and again. As far as agriculture is concerned, it is a State subject and we know it. Who is disputing it ? Why should the Finance Minister tell the Parliament that agriculture is a State subject ? We know it. At least, I know it for the last 30 to 45 years because I was a Minister for Agriculture. I know it very well. But on a different point he is very silent. He is a great scholar and he knows how to debate. The biggest thing about a scholar is that he knows how to debate. That is the difficulty. But I am not a scholar. I am an ordinary man. I am asking him this question. Can you do something so that the Central Government or the Ministry is able to give more remunerative prices to the peasants, of course, with the cooperation of the States ? If you go around, you will find that there are no people to purchase tobacco in our country today. There is nobody. What do the tobacco growers do? They are committing suicide.

SHRI DAYANAND SAHAY (Bihar) : They should grow wheat.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : I know what you mean by that. You are not going to give remunerative prices. That is the meaning. That is what I am saying.

That iswhat the Finace Minister is doing. What about the cotton growers ? Some of you are cotton growers. What is happening to the cotton growers of this country ? Are they getting remunerative prices ? What about the rubber growers and pepper growers in . Kerala ? Every time, he says, "Agriculture is a State subject". Why is there a dispute ? Why do you raise unnecessary disputes ? Can you do something in the matter, Sir, with the help of the State Government to get remunerative prices for the millions of agricultural labourers in the country ? If you can't do it, tell them on the face. You go in your own way. The biggest flaw of the Economic Policy of the Government is that they think that agriculture will find its own way. This is the main essense of their policy. They are not saying it openly. But the essence of the policy of the Central Government is that the agriculture must find its own way. The Government has nothing to do with it. This is one point on which I don't agree with the Government at all. I would like to raise one question more. What is the future of our public sector ? Will you allow them to die naturally or will you provide oxygen cylinders for some time ? Nobody knows as to what they are going to do for the public sector. We are talking about China. We are talking about Vietnam. We are trying to take a leaf out of 'Das Capital'. He is asking all the Communists. Let them, and, of course, let the liberal Congressmen go and find out as to what is happening in Vietnam and what is happening in China. Go and look how the IMF money is being utilised. You were taking classes. But I would like to mention one thing to the Finance Minister. He is a scholar. You must *ht* knowing about one of the biggest steel sectors in the world which is competing with the steel sector in America, Germany and Japan and that is the public sector in South Korea. You must be knowing that.

SHRI MANMOHAM SINGH : We should have a public sector of that sort.

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : J am asking you whether you have got any programme for your public sector. Have you got such a programme for the public sector in India ? Your programme for the public sector in India is, sell the shares so that the productivity will increase. Sell the shares of BHEL to increase the productivity. Sell the shares of BHEL to increase the efficiency. What is the programme for the public sector according to your Economic Policy '? You have no programme. You have no policy for the agriculturists. You have no policy for the public sector. I don't want to say anything more on this. I do not know what is going to be the country's fate. Anyway, I am not prepared to support this Appropriation Bill.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM (Andhra Pradesh) : Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. We have been hearing just now the Minister's reply to the Budget debate. Everybody knows that the Finance Minister knows his business. He talks in such a way that everything is rosy and everything will be all right. He is a terrific optimist. I must congratulate him. But, anyway, people like us, who are grassroot workers and who have been dealing with various sorts of problems at the grassroot level, sometimes, feel dismayed about the fate of this country. What is going to happen to this country tomorrow ? The teeming millions, millions of people, are suffering for lack of all items, all amenities. Even the middle class people are not having everything. And we have forgotten about the people living below the poverty line. They are no more citizens of this country. And even the people at the higher brackets, the so-called 5 to 10 per cent, are also complaining of the lack of amenities. What is happening to this coun-tiy ? Is this Government drifting or giving any direction to the economy of this country ? That is the main problem now. With regard to other areas, all our friends have said so many things. But there is one other area. Just now, I have heard the Finance Minister saying that we are in a very, very comfortable position as far as our balance of payments is concerned. I agree with him. We have definitely improved our position. But at what cost ? Along with the improvement on the balance of payments front, I think we have increased our external debt. What is the percentage of our external debt with regard to our national income and is there any correlation between these two ? We have borrowed from the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and presently we are in a comfortable position. I think we are shining in borrowed feathers. I beg to differ with the Finance Minister. He has to convince not only me but the entire country that this comfortable position today on balance of payments front is really based on the worth of the Indian entrepreneurs, is really the trade balance that we derived out of our exports. But the figures say that that is not the true picture. Anyway, whatever be the position, there is a tremendous need to improve our exports. I have come across one situation. I would like to give one example. In the coastal area of Andhra Pradesh, there is a tremendous scope for export of shrimp, prawns. From Visakhapatnam alone, every year Rs. 120 crore worth of shrimp is exported to various countries, thus, earning Rs 120 crore worth of foreign exchange. But that industry is now in doldrums because of the bureaucratic apathy, because of lack of planning, because of absence of any

[Shri Mentay Padmanabham] support either from the Central Government or from the State Government. That industry, the prawn and shrimp industry, in Andhra Pradesh is in doldrums. The small farmers are able to produce from their saline lands which are abandoned and absolutely useless and which cost around Rs. 200 per acre, 150-250 kilograms of prawans. The foreign exchange earnings on account of this industry come to around Rs. 120 crores every year. The Government is not doing anything and we have been demanding that this industry should be excluded from the income-tax purview. They are all agriculturists, small farmers but the Government does not hear. On the other hand, the Income-tax Department is raiding their houses. A farmer who owns 3 or 4 acres is not supposed to maintain any accounts. I request you to look into this, This is very unfair. At least, you have recognised poultry as an industry. You have given some concessions to them. You can treat this fishery industry also on par with poultry and give some concessions, I mean, free them from the harassment of the income-tax officials. This is what I want to request. In the same way, there is no technical support to the prawn farmer. There is no institution at all in this coastal area of Andhra Pradesh which can provide some technical assistance, technical know-how, some sort of an incentive to the farmers who are engaged in this prawn culture. Why don't „ you think in terms of starting such an institution ?

With regard to rural development, 1 have just now heard that allocation t*o* rural development had been increased by 35 %, I totally agree with him and congratulate him for his concern for the rural people. But in the implementation of the rural development schemes, we all know what is happening. Even late Shri Rajiv Gandhi once said that in every rupee, not even 10 paise was reaching the targetted groups. Ninety paise *is* being wasted. It is being wasted because there are a lot of leakages. Therefore, you will have to have a fresh look at this allocation. Otherwise, the entire money allocated to rural development will go waste and will not reach the targeted groups.

Then there is petroleum exploration. This is also another vital sector because every year our balance of payments crisis is more because of the petroleum imports that we make and we all know about it. But this year's allocation or the Plan allocation for the petroleum sector for exploration is very very minimal and it is not at all sufficient. Therefore, I would request the honourable Finance Minister once again to have a fresh look at the petroleum sector allocation. For the KG basin, where there is a tremendous potential of oil and natural gas, the allocation is minimal, very very minimal, and they are now withdrawing the rigs which have been there for the last five or six years. They are withdrawing them and sending them to some other place. So, this also has to be streamlined and more allocations have to be made to the petroleum sector so that our dependence on peti oleum imports will be less.

Then I come to the cement industry. Here also there is one aspect which I would like to bring to the notice of the Finance Minister. A one-million-tonne capacity factory was planned for Erraguntla in the Rayalaseema area. You know that it is a rain-shadow area and unless industries are there, there will not be any employment to the local people. So, we all welcomed this project. But, after

spending about fifty crores of rupees, now they are discontinuing it for lack of funds and lack of budgetary support ! I do not know what is happening there. If this is the case, how can the country be industrialised ? So, this is also another aspect which *I* would like to bring to the notice of the Finance Minister.

Now, there is something concerning the External Affairs Ministry. Here also much needs to be done. One Passport Office was opened at Vijayawada. After some time,—1 do not know for what reason-—it was discontinued. You know, a number of people are going to the Gulf countries from Andhra, Kerala, etc. and it is their remittances which are saving this country's balance of payments position. The remittances of these people who have gone to the Gulf countries constitute about three-fourths of the total foreign remittances to India, not the remittances of the big people who have settled down in the US and other countries, the professionals and others. Their remittances are nominal. But the remittances of the common labourers have saved this country providing some help to our balance of payments position. And yet these people are not able to get passports ! They have to run from pillar to post to get their passports. I, therefore, request the honourable Finance Minister to see that some Passport Offices are opened in the Andhra and Rayalaseema areas also. Thank you. Sir.

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN (Madhya Pradesh) : Sir, most of the points have been made and 1 do not want to repeat them. I would only like to make two points. My first point is only the plea made by my senior colleague, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi. It is that this process of globali-

sation has to be preceded by internal consolidation. I wish to reiterate this point that a number of Indian industries were bogged down due to this new policy and I would only illustrate it by what the Finance Minister has admitted in this House. He had increased the import duty from ten to fifteen per cent on steel melting scrap and now he has reduced it to 12.5 per cent. What 1 want to say is that you should scrap the whole Customs duty on this if you want to link your steel industry with the global economy. There is not much time left now and so, I cannot elaborate on this point. But I wish to make a plea that while you are integrating the Indian economy with the global economy, please take industry specific steps and see that the adjustments in the Customs or Excise Duties are done in a manner that does not impede the safety and growth of the Indian industry.

With your permission, I want to raise a new point. Sir. I want to bring to the notice of the honourable Finance Minister to the existence of a new treasure which is lying unprotected and that is the treasure of gems, jewellery, ornaments, ancestral items which were in the possession of the former Maharajas and Rajas which are lying unprotected and which are being exported or smuggled out of this country and which. 1 think, are a national wealth.

Sir, 1 have tried to study this subject. I have talked to some experts and I have been told that if you calcu late the value of this wealth, it will be as much as Rs. 60.000 crores. That comes to about 20,000 million dollars or 20 billion dollars, as per a very rough estimate. Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance recently came back from Washington DC. and he knows what efforas it takes to brorrow billions from

[Dr. Jinendra Kumar Jain] the World Bank. But here is an asset which is lying unguarded. It is not for the time I am saying this, Sir. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Smt. Indira Gandhi, the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, all of them are on record to say this. There are Acts made in the past. To these items that I have just mentioned are also added the sculptures and the paintings also which have an antique value and which were prohibited to be sent out of this country under the Antiques and Art Treasures Act of 1972. If we take care of national asset, a lot of national wealth can come to the Government. And the point is that the Government can back its currency with this wealth. Iran had done it. At a time when Iran's economy was in crisis, some of the jewellery of the late Shah of Iran was kept in the National Treasury, and on the strength of that, they had printed their currency.

Sir, there is so much of wealth that is going around uncared for. I am not talking of the personal jewellery of the Maharajas. A distinction has to be made between the State jewellery and the personal jewellery. I am sure, the hon. Finance Minister who is so knowledgeable knows the difference. I am talking of such jewellery which was coronation jewellery or such jewellery which was purchased out of the State money. Sir, we all know and all of us have been told that Hindustan used to be called a "sone ki cbidia". We all know where this gold was, where this jewellery was, where this whole wealth was. It was in the possession of the rulers, the Maharajas or whosoever was the title-holder of it. They used to pass it on from generation to generation. They had a clear-cut distinction. Their personal jewellery was separate and the jewellery which belonged to the State was different. *(Time bell rings)* Sir, it is an important point. Let me briefly mention it so that the hon. Finance Minister can appreciate it. Sir, at the time of Independence, when the treaty was signed between the Union of India and the Princes, an understanding was reached. Sir, I have a question and an answer in my hand which I can take as the official position of the Government of India. Because of shortage of time, I am not quoting what Sardar Patel had written onthefile. I have it with me.I am not quoting what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had written on the files. It is all on record. I am not even quoting Mrs. Indira Gandhi or Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Chaudary Charan Singh, when he was the Prime Minister, agreed with it. Then the V.P. Singh Government came. Mr. Madhu Dandavate, who was the Finance Minister then, agreed with it. Chandra Shekharji, when he was the Prime Minister, agreed with it. So, people belonging to all political Parties, from time to time, have appreciated it. But somehow they have not acted on it. I make a plea to the hon. Finance Minister that this Government should take it up.

Sir, I was referring to a question which was raised in the Parliament on the 4th January, 1991. The question was addressed to the Minister of Finance.

The question was :

'(a) Whether the erstwhile rulers of princely States are in possession of regalia items for use on ceremonial occasions'. The answer is : 'Yes, Sir.' Then, '(b) Whether such regalia items are considered State property, subject to periodical inspection by the authorised government agencies. The answer is : 'Yes, Sir' Then, '(c) Whether such items are exempt from the provisions of Wealth Tax and Gift Tax

Acts as they belong to the States', and the answer was :'Yes, Sir'. Then, '(d) Whether instructions exist to ensure the interest of government revenues and avoid mixing up of regalia Heirloom items and personal Jewell.ry items of the erstwhile rulers'. The answer was : 'Yes' Sir'. What I am saying is not a new point. It is the considered policy, the consistent policy of the Government of India that this property belongs to the Government but it is lying not in the possession of the Government. When we go to England, there is a Tower of London and all crown jewels of England are there. Not only the citizens of U.K. but tourists from all over the world can see the wealth of that country and know that that wealth is the wealth of England. India's wealth right from our ancestors, our forefathers, the wealth which belonged to the people of India, is being smuggled out. Sir, I am sure, the Finance Minister is aware that a firm has been created wherein an industrial house of India has joined hands with Southeby's an international auctioneer and this wealth of India is being sold in auction in Geneva, in London and in the world markets. It is a shameful thing for people like us when we see catalogues displaying this jewellery which belongs to the people of India and being auctioned. What I am trying to say is that the Government should awaken itself to realise that this wealth of India which is not in the possession of the Government of India is being smuggled out by some people who were the coustodians of it and they are selling it abroad, and thereby our national wealth is being plundered. That is the issue that I want to raise. Instead of just looking for borrowed money, we should take a thorough look into our past and our treasures and bring them under our control. There is. a National Museum where it can be kept, or it can be kept in the chest of the Reserve Bank of India. There is so much of money, there is so much of wealth there and you can support the national currency. This is a suggestion that I submit for favour of consideration by the Government. It is a constructive suggestion. It is not a partisan opinion. This is only with a view to serving the national interest that I make this suggestion. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Now, 'reply by the Finance Minister.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Vice-Chairman, most of the points that have been raised refer to Ministries other than the Ministry of Finance, and all that I can do is to refer those points to the concerned Ministries. But to the extent that I can answer some of these points, I will try.

Shri Gautam asked about the Government's plan for unirrigated areas. 1 do agree with him. That is a very important question because nearly 70 per cent of our area is not benefiting from irrigation. Therefore we need to develop our technology suited for dryland agriculture. There are Centrally-sponsored schemes for that purpose. The Indian Council for Agricultural Research is constantly busy working out technology for that area. In these areas we have to develop a potential for minor irrigation. In my own speech I had referred to NABARD's attempt this year to invest in 3.5 lakh pump sets. So we have to work in all these coordinated directions to realise the full potential of unirrigated lands.

As regards the development of forests, protection of environment is a matter of faith with our Government.

[Shri Manmohan Singh] To the maximum extent possible, we will do all that is necessary to see that exploitation of indias national asset, forests, is done in a manner consistent with the prevention of any damage to the ecology and enviornment.

Another issue he raised was in regard to the provision of some money for Members of Parliament. I have answered this question on several occasions. The Prime Minister also said about it the other day in the other House. This is a matter which deserves serious consideration. We will have to consult the Planning Commission. We need also to consult the State Governments, to arrive at a solution which is mutually acceptable.

Shri Gautara also brought in the problem of sick textile mills. It is our policy that all potentially viable public sector enterprises should be helped to become viable. We do not want to close down the public sector enterprises simply because they are sick. In regard to all those units which could be made viable with a marginal investment it will be our effort to make them healthy and if any investments, to that extent, are necessary, they will be provided. *

Then, Shri Gautam referred to Dr. Ambedkar University. The Cabinet has already taken a decision to make this university a Central University. If any provision is necessary in this regard, it will be done in due course of time,

Shri Ashis Sen made many points which I had already tried to cover in my reply to the discussion on the Budget. I, certainly do not agree with him that our attempt at rejuvenating the economy is only on the basis of borrowings. In fact, I would like to point this out to the House. Another hon. Member also raised the same issue. I think it was Shri Padmanabham. Since our Government came into office, in these last 22 months, we have borrowed roughly 2.8 billion dollars from the T.M.F. In the preceding one year, the previous Government also borrowed roughly the same amount. Now, what did they do with that amount ? They wasted all that money. When they came into office, the reserves were 3 billion dollars. When they left, the reserves came down to just 1 billion dollars. They lost 2 billion dollars of reserves. In addition to this, they borrowed 2.8 billion dollars from the I.M.F. this was also wasted and the net deterioration in India's asset position was to the extent of 4.8 billion dollars. We have borrowed roughly the same amount. When we came into office, the reserves were 1 billion dollars. The reserves are now 7 billion dollars. You can deduct 2.8 billion dollars from this. This is the measure of improvement that has come about as a result of our policies.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : (Maharashtra) : Mr. Minister when you are talking about this 2.8 billion dollars borrowed by the previous Government, may I know whether it included the debts of the earlier Governments, which had to be paid, at that time, by the previous Government ?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : The only comparative period is the period preceding 1991, when you were also supporting the Government
that was in office at that time.....
{Interruptions)....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) ; Mr. Viren Shah, let the hon. Minister answer.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Among the other points made by Shri Ashis Sen, there was one point

about agricultural income-tax. With due respect to Mr. Balaram, 1 have to say that this is a State subject. Therefore, I think, in this matter, the Central Government cannot intervene.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH" : Start with West Bengal.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH 5 In regard to banking sector norms, Shri Ashis Sen asked : 'Why are we wanting to sell a part of the equity ?" f have mentioned this on several occasions. It is not our intention to change the public sector character of the nationalised banks. But we do need to raise resources. Now, the question is, how are we going to raise resources to give them adequate capital '.' They need adequate capital. For what ? For example, the State Bank of India is competing abroad. Many of oar banks are operating abroad. If they do not have adequate capital, nobody will honour their letters of credit and other guarantees. Therefore, we need to give our banks adequate amount of capital. How are we going to give them capital.

One way is that we give them through the budget. This year in the Budget 1 have provided Rs. 5,700 crores for this purpose, but the minimum requirement is about 10 to 15 crores of rupees. The House can imagine whether this money we should spend on agriculture, rural development, social service, or in pumping more money into the banking system. I feel there is no harm in tapping the market to raise this money provided. as 1 mentioned, we maintain the public sector character of these banks. Therefore, on this point 1 do not feel we are doing anything which is wrong.

Shri Balaram mentioned about the rise in prices of essential commodities. I would respectfully submit that in the course of the last one year the average increase in the prices of primary commodities which include most of the essential commodities, has been no more than 3 per cent, while in the preceding year there was an increase of over 15 per cent. I am not saying that all is rosy. We are concerned that the essential commodities....

SHRI J AGESH DESAI (Maharashtra) : In some items the rise was 27 per cent.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : 1 do agree that it should be a constant effort, that we cannot be satisfied with the *status quo,* that we must make every effort to see that these commodities are made available to vulnerable sections of our population at reasonable prices.

श्री शिवचरण सिंह (राजस्थान): यह तो अच्छी फसल के कारण है । अच्छी फसल नहीं होगी, अकाल पड़ जाएगा, तो क्या होगा ?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : With regard to the benefit for the poor people, 1 do not agree with Shri Balaram that the Budget has nothing to do with the welfare of the poor people. I may, in this respect, mention that we have reduced the excise duties on some consumer durables like automobiles. Jn this context, I had received urgent pleas from no less a person than the Chief Minister of West Bengal, and rightly so, because one automobile creates jobs for 11 people. It is because we are concerned about the employment effect of declining capacity use in these sectors that we reduced the excise duty. That is a pro-poor, pro-working class act and not an anti-working class act.

I have already mentioned our Government's commitment to provide remunerative prices to farmers. Ours

[Shri Manmolian Singh] is a pro-agriculture policy. It is not a policy of *laisse: faire* for agriculture, as Mr. Balaram implied and if there are any problems in tobacco, I believe the Commerce Ministry, which looks after this industry, is already looking into the problems....

SHRI N.E. BALARAM : I am talking about a series of commodities, not only tobacco.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : With regard to the series of commodities our policy is that we will make every effort to provide remunerative prices to our farmers.

Shri Balaram also referred to the future of public sector. I think we have said, the Prime Minister has said on several occasions that we will give every opportunity to the public sector to expand wherever public sector is profitable. Where public sector serves social ends, there also we will give public sector opportunities, but let us be candid. A public sector which makes losses year after year is not a source of strength of our economy, it is a drag on the process of accumulation. Therefore, those public sector enterprises which cannot be made viable, I think, sooner or later must recognise their fate because to close shop is better than to keep it alive even when it has outlived its utility. Wherever our public sector enterprises are profitable we will give them every opportunity to expand—it is not an anti-public sector policy. In fact, that was the original purpose. If you read Panditji's speeches as to what was the role of the public sector, what he meant when he said that we want the commanding heights of the economy to be in the hands of the public sector, it is precisely this conception of the public sector because profits ultimately are the source of accumulation, they are also the source of distribution of wealth and if public sector has no profit, it has only losses, what sort of commanding heights that would be ? Therefore, 1 would respectfully sumbit that the policy that we have with regard to the public sector is the right policy in the present stage of our development.

Shri Padmanabham asked me to clarify how much of our improved ba-lance-of-paymeuts position is due to the I.M.F. I have already answered that question.

He has also referred to the problems of petroleum exploration, I do agree with him. This is a serious problem. In fact, I have said in the other House that we do not have a balance-of-payments problem but that we have a petroleum or oil problem. If our consumption continues to increase at the rate of 8 to 10 per cent and our production goes down. I think, we have an insoluble balance-of payments pro-blem. We have to increase the expenditure on exploration and development and at the same time we have to develop substitutes for oil. Electricity, power sector development can be a powerful substitute for kerosene and can be a powerful substitute for diesel. Therefore, it brings me back to the point I made in my original speech that the health of the electricity industry in our country should be a cause for a very serious concern. A collective national effort has to be made to ensure that all State Electricity Boards in our country earn a minimum rate of return of 3 per cent on fixed term investment.

With regard to the Cement Corporation of India and the Passport Office at Vijayawada, I do not have the facts with me.

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SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM : Prawn and shrimp culture.

SHRI MANMOHAN SFNGH : With regard to shrimp culture, it is an exporting sector, but I am told that right aow there is a recession in the world in this matter. But I would pass on this point to the _____

SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM : What about the income-tax problem of the shrimp industry ?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Well, I cannot say that income-tax will not be levied on this industry for the time being. I will study this, if necessary.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM : At least you can bring it on par with the poultry industry.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Weil, as of now I cannot give any assurance on this point.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM : No, I don't need any assurance. I want only your attention to this.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : I have taken note of the point.

Sir, Dr. Jain has raised two points. He said that globalisation must be preceded by internal consolidation. In my reply I have already referred to this particular point. 1 think this is a fake distinction. We have to move on'both fronts in order to realise the full economic potential of India.

With regard to state jewellery, I think, this is a national heritage. We have to preserve it. Whether it can be used to raise money abroad, I am not sure, but I have taken note of the suggestion. May be, I will have a further discussion with Dr. Jain to get further details from him.

With this, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Now the discussion is concluded.

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO (Aandhra Pradesh) :The finance Minister has stated that the Central Government is very much interested in the improvement of agriculture. On the one hand he is saying that he is interested in the improvement of agriculture.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : No, *no.* He has answered all these points elaborately even in his reply to the Budget discussion.

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO: You just wait. On the other hand, he is abdicating his responsibility by stating that it is a State subject. How does he reconcile this contradiction ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : There is no point.

SHRI MOTURU HANUMANTHA RAO : They are two different things one against the other. On the one hand he is interested in improving agriculture. On the other hand, he is abdicating his responsibility. The States are in doldrums.

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : My saying that agriculture is primarily a State subject does not mean that Central Government takes the view that we have no promotional role to play. Central Government has an important promotion role to play in agriculture and other nation-building activities. It should not be taken to mean that. I never implied that Central Government has no role to play in the development of agricultui e.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Right now there is voting. The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1993-94 as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration.

Clauses 2 to 4 *and the Schedule were added to the Bill.*

Clause i, *the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill be returned".

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE TRANSPLANTATION OF HUMAN ORGANS BILL, 1992

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : Now we take up the Transplantation of Human Organs Bill, 1992.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM (Andhra Pradesh) : Sir, I am on a point of information. Yesterday there were two statements. One statement was made. Members have to see clarifications. When you are taking it up ?

' THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) : After this Bill, clarifications are listed. Members can then seek clarifications.

SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM : It will be too late. The statement has already been made.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI NARAYANASAMY) : According to the List of Business, the Bill has to be taken up. After that only we have to take up clarifications on the Statement by the Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : Hon. Members are aware that the Government had promised to bring forward a legislation on the transplantation of human organs. Accordingly the Bill was introduced in this House on 20th August, 1992. The question of enacting a legislation arose in order to prevent unauthorised removal and sale of human organs and to ensure that nobody indulges in commercial dealings which are, more often than not, exploitative in nature, as has been stated in various fora, including this august House. At the same time we have the where-withal to perform organ transplants. It is our moral obligation to provide for a legislation which would allow for a human organ to be removed and transplanted with adequate safeguards to ensure safety and dignity of the person concerned. We also need a suitable legislation to provide for the removal of human organs from deceased persons and from those who are declared to have reached stage of health known in medical vocubulary as brain-stem dead persons. Such removal of organs which are of no value whatsoever to either the deceased or the brain-stem dead persons can be used by other members of the society prolonging their productive life.

The organs which can be transplanted in the human body are the eyes..